



Kennesaw Art and Culture Commission

Karen Backus, Chair
Valerie Dibble, Vice Chair
Kim Meacham, Secretary
Clemens Bak
Jessie Blowers
Jessy Patterson
Carol Sills

Art and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2019

6:30 PM

City Hall Council Chambers

Commission Chair Karen Backus called the meeting of the City of Kennesaw Art and Culture Commission to order at 6:27 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 2529 J.O. Stephenson Ave., Kennesaw, Georgia, 30144.

- **Commission members present:** Karen Backus, Clemens Bak, Kim Meacham, Jessy Patterson, and Carol Sills. Five (5) Commission members were present (four members are needed to establish a quorum). The total number of Commissioners is seven (7).

- **Commission members absent:** Jessie Blowers, Valerie Dibble.

- **City representatives in attendance:** Darryl Simmons (Planning and Zoning Administrator) and Amanda Glass (City of Kennesaw, Recreation Division Manager).

- **Guests in attendance:** Joe Bozeman, member of the Cemetery Preservation Commission; Brittani Farmer, Parks and Recreation, Special Events Coordinator; and Dr. John Sills.

- **Adoption of November 15, 2018, minutes:** Jessy Patterson motioned, Carol Sills seconded, to adopt the minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0-0.

- **Welcome Amanda Glass as appointed staff liaison for Parks and Recreation Department:** Darryl Simmons announced Amanda Glass' appointment and everyone welcomed her to the commission. Karen Backus asked Amanda to introduce herself. Amanda touched on her background in performing arts and her current responsibilities, which include managing the day to day management of the Parks and Recreation classes, rentals, special events, and summer camp. Amanda also introduced Brittani Farmer, Parks and Recreation, Special Events Coordinator.

- Election of Officers for 2019: Clemens Bak motioned to proceed with the election and Kim Meacham seconded. Nominations were put forward for Karen Backus, Chair; Valerie Dibble, Vice Chair, and Kim Meacham, Secretary. Votes were unanimous.

- Adoption of Public Art Master Plan – Next Critical Steps:

- Darryl Simmons spoke highly of the Master Plan presentation Karen Backus gave to the Mayor and Council on February 11, 2019. The presentation highlighted key points of the Master Plan and was well received.
- Karen Backus indicated that the next steps will be holding two (2) community engagement forums – “Public Art Master Plan Community Engagement Forum”, which may be held at either the City Hall or the Ben Robertson Community Center.
- Dates in May were proposed: May 8th or 9th and May 14th from 6:00PM – 8:00PM. Amanda Glass and Darryl Simmons are going to check the calendars for availability of the City Hall and the Ben Robertson Community Center on those dates.
- Karen Backus brought up offering a short, 15 minute performance as part of the Forum, the commissioners are in full support of hosting a performance.
- Carol Sills has been in touch with KSU regarding the availability of musicians and she will follow-up once the KACC has confirmed dates. Carol also discussed the importance of offering performers a small stipend / honorarium. Commissioners discussed providing the amount of \$50 - \$75. Carol Sills motioned, and Jessy Patterson seconded to vote to provide \$50 - \$75 stipend / honorarium to performers. Votes were unanimous.
- Karen Backus will spearhead the media / social media campaign for the community engagement forums. She discussed plans to reach out to the Brightside, Marietta Daily Journal, along with coordinating with the City to get the word out and invite the public.
- In addition to being able to attend the public forums, Darryl Simmons indicated that the Master Plan would be available on line for the community to review and comment on.

- Project Updates

- Master Plan: see above
- KSU Manhole Covers: Darryl Simmons reported that the manhole covers are completed and ready to be installed. The official reveal will be Friday, March 8, 2019 at 3:30PM.
- Printing Press Project: Darryl Simmons congratulated Clemens Bak on his proposal presentation for a printing press project at the new library. Clemens discussed the discovery and restoration of the historic, local press and related the story behind finding and identifying the family of the man who originally owned the press, Sam Galloway.
- Portable Display: Darryl Simmons reported that the materials for the portable display had been purchased and Clemens Bak announced that the portable display for the Carrie House and other venues would be completed by Saturday.
- Public Meeting Noonday Creek Trail: Darryl Simmons announced that there would be a public meeting on Wednesday, February 27th from 5:00PM-7:00PM to discuss ways to design a safe pedestrian crossing for the Noonday Creek Trail to connect over Cobb Parkway / Route 41.

The pedestrian crossing received a grant from the Atlanta Regional Commission and is a joint project of the City of Kennesaw and Town Center CID; the project was awarded to the Kimley-Horn planning and engineering firm. Darryl recommended commissioners attend the meeting for an opportunity to discuss ways to incorporate art in public spaces along the trail.

- Nonprofit Application: Kim Meacham purchased the domain name and is working on the Articles of Incorporation. Commissioners again discussed ways to select/invite board members. Carol Sills reached out to Ann Parsons and arranged to meet with two Smith-Gilbert Foundation board members. Carol and Kim Meacham will meet with them to discuss their insights and advice with regards to forming a foundation.
- Big Shanty Festival: see below
- Partner Outreach Update:
 - Karen Backus has reached out to several organizations for insights based on their experiences.
 - Carol Sills reached out to the Smith-Gilbert Gardens and is arranging meetings with two board members (see above).
 - Jessy Patterson suggested that Karen Backus attend and possibly speak at one of the upcoming Rotary Club meetings. Jessy will find out about possible dates and coordinate with Karen.
 - KBA membership \$95 was purchased. Meetings and events are held several times a month. Commissioners are encouraged to attend.

- FY 2019 Budget – including financial reporting

- Darryl Simmons provided a budget update: year-to-date expenditures totaled \$448 for printing and website expenses with a balance remaining of \$4,352.
- Approved expenditures that are pending include: \$95 for KBA membership, \$125 for the Big Shanty Festival booth, the costs for the portable display, and various fees associated with forming the non-profit.

- Big Shanty Festival 2019 Planning and Assignments

- Valerie Dibble completed and submitted the booth application.
- Kim Meacham volunteered to be the point of contact with JRM Management, the event organizers.
- Schedule: the sign-up sheet was circulated. Dates / Times: Saturday, April 13, 10AM – 6PM and Sunday, April 14, 12PM – 5PM, plus set-up Friday, April 12 and break-down Sunday.
- Activities: Jessy Patterson suggested a Japanese Paper marbling art project, which everyone was in favor of providing. Karen Backus and Kim Meacham will put together a visual survey; a proposed mock-up will be presented at the March meeting for review and suggestions. Carol Sills reported that without electricity, musicians would not be an option; also, per her conversation with JRM, all activities need to be reviewed and approved. Darryl Simmons

suggested a caricature artist and will provide the contact information for one that was recently used by the City. Kim Meacham suggested an art demonstration, and will check with artists she knows.

- Carol Sills reported that the opportunity for radio announcements did not work out.

- **Public comments/questions:** there were no public comments.

- **Adjournment:** Clemens Bak moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m., Jessy Patterson seconded. Motion carried 5-0-0. The Commission will meet next on Thursday, March 21, 2019, at 6:30 pm in the City Council Chambers, 2529 J.O. Stephenson Ave., Kennesaw, Georgia, 30144.

Submitted by Kim Meacham, Secretary